Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03950 292121Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 IO-13

INR-10 NSC-05 CIAE-00 /078 W

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PR 292045Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7488

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

ANNENDADD I TAKID

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 3950

RIO FOR MOOSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, UNSC, SO, ET

SUBJECT: APRIL 10 MEETING IN LAGOS ON THE HORN

REF: (A) LAGOS 3541, (B) LAGOS 2519

1. ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR BADEMA TOLD ITALIAN COUNSELOR ARAGONA THAT THE ETHIOPIANS SEE NO POINT IN ATTENDING THE APRIL 10 MEETING OF THE OAU GOOD MISSIONS COMMITTEE IN LAGOS UNLESS OAU AGREES TO CONDEMN SOMALIA AS THE AGRESSOR AND DECLARE ETHIOPIA THE VICTIM OF SOMALIA'S AGGRESSION. MOREOVER, THE ETHIOPIANS DO NOT ENVISAGE A CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING AT THE HEAD OF STATE LEVEL AND WOULD PROBABLY SEND A DELEGATION AT THE SAME LEVEL AS THE FEBRUARY DELEGATION (MAJORS BAYEH AND DAWIT).

2. ARAGONA ALSO MENTIONED MEETING THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF DJIBOUTI LAST WEEK WHO WAS IN LAGOS ON AN OFFICIAL MISSION TO TRY TO GET THE NIGERIANS TO "TAKE OUR EXISTENCE" INTO ACCOUNT.

(THE NIGERIANS

DO NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DJIBOUTI). ACCORDING TO ARAGONA, THE VISIT WAS MOTIVATED BY DJIBOUTI'S FEAR THAT THE SOMALIS WILL NOW TURN IN THEIR DIRECTION. THE FORMER PRIMIN EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT HE WAS RECEIVED ONLY AT THE LEVEL OF MEA AFRICA DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR AKADIRI WHO "DID NOT SEEM TOO INTERESTED" IN HIS PROPOSAL.

3. AMBASSADOR SANU TOLD ME THIS EVENING THAT THE ETHIOPIANS WERE NOW, REPEAT, NOW PROPOSING A DELAY IN THE LAGOS MEETING UNTIL SOMETIME IN MAY.

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